Staff Strength of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

3822. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total staff strength of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;

(b) what is total amount spent on the salaries, wages and the consumables of the staff ; and

(c) how much is accounted for the salary, allowances, wages and consumables of the staff out of the total outlay for the Ministry in the Budget of this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The total estimated staff strength of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting as on 1st March, 1994 is 53,193.

(b) The total amount, spent on the salaries, wages and consumables of the staff during the financial year 1993-94 is estimated as under :—

(Rs. in crore)

Detailed head		Amount
1.	Salaries	187.33
2.	Wages	Nil
3.	Consumables	20.26
	Total	207.59

(c) Out of the total Budget Estimates 1994-95 of Rs. 1491.69 crores under Plan and Non-Plan of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Salaries, allowances, wages and consumables of the staff account for as under :—

(Rs. in crore)

Detailed head		Amount
1.	Salaries	168.78
2.	Allowances	35.86
3.	Wages	—
4.	Consumables	24.26
	Total :	228.90

CAG's Remarks on the working of Doordarshan and AIR

3823. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the adverse remarks passed by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the working of Doordarshan and All India Radio ;

(b) whether Government have taken a note of the said remarks;

(c) what action Government propose to take to set its working right ; and

(d) what are the plans of Government to obviate such adverse remarks in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The comments are being examined whereafter, as is done in such cases, suitable remedial action would be taken to rectify the procedural and other deficiencies pointed out by the audit in each case.

Neglect of Artists of Maharashtra by Doordarshan

3824. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that highly talented young artists from Maharashtra are neglected by Doordarshan while preference is given to not so talented persons;

(b) whether the association of artists and TV stars from Maharashtra has submitted any representation to Government in this regard ;

(c) what action is being taken to give proper chance and opportunity to artists from that State ; and

(d) what action is being taken to overcome the discriminative attitude of Doordarshan authorities towards the artists of Maharashtra ?